

UNCLASSIFIED

FBIS Concatenated Daily Reports, 1991

Document 1 of 1

Page 1

BRS Assigned Document Number: 000018234

AFS Number:	92GE0056B	Entry Date:	
Classification:	UNCLASSIFIED	Status:	[STAT]
Language:	German	Country:	
Document Date:	25 Oct 91	Category:	[CAT]
Report Type:	Daily Report	Report Date:	27 Nov 91
Report Number:	FBIS-WEU-91-229	UDC Number:	
Report Series:	Daily Report	Start Page:	24
Report Division:	GERMANY	End Page:	26
Report Volume:	Wednesday Vol VII No 229		

Dissemination:

City/Source of Document: Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE

Author(s): ``GHA.'': ``A Special Program To Stimulate Health Research in the New Laender'']

Report Name: West Europe

Headline: * Health Research in East Newly Funded, Focused

Source Line: 92GE0056B Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 25 Oct 91 p 6

Subslug: [Article by ``GHA.'': ``A Special Program To Stimulate Health Research in the New Laender'']

FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:

1. [Article by ``GHA.'': ``A Special Program To Stimulate Health Research in the New Laender'']

2. [Text] Bonn, 24 Oct-With the help of a special program the Federal Ministry of Research plans to stimulate health research at the new medical schools and academies and at the non-university institutions of the new laender. Within the next three years, 100 million German marks [DM] are to be allocated for this purpose. The Health Research Council has sanctioned the program. It is supposed to serve to develop research priorities as integrated systems that possess sufficient ``critical mass'' to become competitive. Ultimately, they might be established, for example, as clinical research groups or special research divisions. The laender want to assist this initiative with the remodeling of buildings and with appointments. When introducing the program in Bonn, Research Minister Riesenhuber said that especially the new generation of scientists should also be included in leading positions. Trips to other countries, international events, and invitations to guest scientists

Approved for Release
Date: APR 1997

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

FBIS Concatenated Daily Reports, 1991

Document 1 of 1

Page 2

are being supported as well. The subjects of the focal points are a continuance of previous research in the colleges and academies in Berlin, Greifswald, Rostock, Leipzig, Dresden, Halle, Magdeburg, Jena, and Erfurt and link them to the government program, "Research and Development Devoted to Health." The projects are primarily concerned with the areas of neurology, heart-circulatory diseases, as well as rheumatism and diseases of the connective tissue, also the treatment of newborn infants, metabolic problems, cancer research, and the prevention of dental disease. The schedule of projects conveys a positive picture of the frequently underestimated university research in the new laender.

3. Scientists presume that the cause for the close link between psychic and physical processes lies in analogous systems of chemical carriers. One of the priorities at the largest clinical center, the Charite in Berlin, is called "Disorders of the Central Neurotransmission Mechanisms" and focuses on the study of structure, function, and interaction of these carrier mechanisms within the central nervous system. Mental degeneration, particularly Alzheimer's disease, is the focus of the grant priority, "Clinical and Neurobiological Aspects of Degenerative and Regenerative Changes in the Central and Peripheral Nervous System," at the Paul-Flechsig Institute for Brain Research at the University Leipzig.

4. The subsidy of two priority projects is intended to reinforce the bridge between the Medical Academy Magdeburg and the Institute for Neurobiology and Brain Research of the former Academy of Sciences of the GDR, thus creating an efficient neurobiological research focus in Magdeburg. "Clinical Neurosciences" and possibly "Basic Mechanisms of Neuropsychiatric Diseases" are under preparation. Environmental problems, among others, which are associated with the heavy pollution from industrial emissions in the Magdeburg region, are to be an essential component of clinical and epidemiological studies. The other priority is the question of nerve adaptation during the aging process.

5. Ever since the electroencephalogram (EEG) was developed in Jena in 1924, neurological research has been a focal point at this university. This tradition is to be continued, particularly the study of cerebral physiological processes. The closeness to industry is an advantage. Physicians at University of Greifswald are in the lead worldwide with their ideas and approaches regarding blood pressure regulation. In their main study, "Chemoreceptors-Sodium Chloride Sensitivity- Primary Hypertonia," they are now striving to comprehend the precise control of blood pressure with sensors (chemoreceptors) in the arteries.

6. A research alliance for the differentiation of the

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

FBIS Concatenated Daily Reports, 1991

Document 1 of 1

Page 3

arteriosclerosis risk associated with disorders of the blood fat metabolism has as its long-range objective to develop the center for fat metabolism disorders at the Medical Academy Dresden into a national center for this field. Interdisciplinary research work established at the Martin-Luther University in Halle has for some time been devoted to the significance of biocatalysts (mediators) in pathophysiological processes in the heart-circulatory system.

7. The research at the Medical Academy Erfurt concentrates on advancements in the prevention, early diagnosis, and controlled therapy of thromboses in veins and arteries. The effect of cellular and humoral mechanisms is being explored. Microinvasive surgery with minute probes and instruments started at the Charite and at two American institutes as early as the 1960's. The Berliners now intend to apply this therapy at a lower cost, with less pain, and more frequently.

8. The complexity of the bone disease osteoporosis is still a long way from being completely understood. There is no sure evidence yet as to the patient's individual risk of suffering a fracture. The medical community in Rostock wants to close this gap. Most of the participating scientists belong to the younger generation. Based on a long tradition at the Medical School in Leipzig, 20 study groups from an about equal share of clinics and theoretical institutes plan to combine their research work on the questions of prevention, genesis, diagnosis, and therapy of rheumatic diseases. A special research branch is the effort of scientists who have a grant from the BMFT (Federal Ministry of Research and Technology) for their work concentrating on ''Connective-Tissue Metabolism and Fibrogenesis in the Case of Therapy-, Environment-, and Autoimmune-Dependent Pulmonary Fibroses'' at the Medical Academy Dresden.

9. The medical school of the University Jena coordinated the rheumatism research in the former GDR. The Federal Health Ministry plans to open Thuringia's first rheumatism center here. The interdisciplinary collaboration there is now being exploited in the key study, ''Rheumatism and Autoimmune Diseases''; here the work is concentrated on the analysis of inflammatory and noninflammatory damage to cartilage and various organs-to cardiac valves, for example.

10. At the center of the third research priority at the Berlin Charite (in all other clinics the BMFT subsidizes only two key studies) are high-risk children. In existence for years, a group there is involved in the research of injury to premature infants' central nervous systems and lungs. Extensive data from earlier years are evaluated epidemiologically so that delayed damage and its possible causes can be analyzed with future treatment strategies in

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

FBIS Concatenated Daily Reports, 1991

Document 1 of 1

Page 4

mind.

11. The research efforts of the ``Gerhard Katsch`` Institute for Diabetes-named for a former health minister of the GDR-in Karlsburg near Greifswald, are to be integrated-as recommended by the science council and as planned by the federal minister of research-into the medical school of the University Greifswald, so that a concentrated research project, ``Endocrinology and Metabolism,`` can be developed there. The institute plays a pioneering role in diabetes epidemiology research, for example.

12. Drug therapy for frequently fatal pancreatitis has made but little progress during the past years. A growing number of medicines is found to be ineffective. Five study groups of the Rostock University want to dedicate themselves to this subject in the BMFT-subsidized key research on ``Pathogenesis and Therapy of Inflammatory Diseases of the Pancreas.`` They investigate the path of endogenous and exogenous substances from the blood through the pancreas into the pancreatic juice, the interaction among these substances, and the pancreas as a total organ. Extensive related preliminary studies are also taking place in cooperation with clinics in Magdeburg and Erlangen, and with other western partners. Based on a tumor center scheduled for the end of 1991, the Institutes for Biochemistry and for Pathology of the University of Halle are striving to make oncology a focal point. And finally, at the Medical Academy Erlangen the BMFT is subsidizing a key project in dental medicine, ``The Health-Oriented Concerted Preventive Effort To Preserve One's Teeth for Life.``

UNCLASSIFIED